

How the Nouvelle-Aquitaine
Region Saved 10%
of Its School
Transport Budget
in the Vienne Department





Background

In 2017, against a backdrop of regional mergers, the French Parliament transferred responsibility for school transport from the departments to the regions, aiming to consolidate and optimize transport.





The Nouvelle Aquitaine region in figures:



9 84 000

km² surface area



1884

schools served



million inhabitants



4000

school buses



departments



6 500

school routes



The Challenge

The main challenge facing the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region after taking over intercity and school transport for the 12 departments was to modernize and optimize this service.



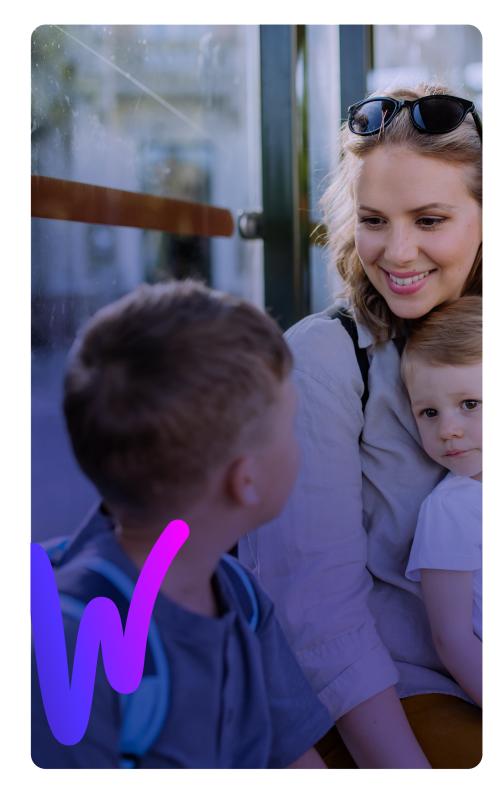
School transport suffered from an outdated image and non-optimized organization.



With 4,000 coaches in circulation, the region had no precise data on timetable compliance, actual service provision, or actual vehicle use.



It was crucial to find a solution to improve the management and monitoring of school transport while ensuring better coordination and operational efficiency.





The Deployed Solution

The Nouvelle-Aquitaine region modernized its school transport network with the WanFare solution, specially designed to meet the needs of students and their families.



Every pupil now has a Modalis card, enabling them to travel easily on school buses and TER routes and on regular routes outside school periods. With almost 4,000 school coaches equipped with intelligent validators and desks, vehicle usage and geolocation data are transmitted to the Matawan SaaS platform in real-time.



Deployment of this connected ticketing system has enabled instant tracking of bus positions and the number of pupils on board, ensuring enhanced transport safety. By analyzing usage data, the region has been able to redistribute routes optimally and simplify the management of the school transport network.



In addition, dynamic communication, with SMS text messages and QR codes on students' cards, provides families with real-time information on the bus's arrival at the stop.



Jean-Luc Le Berre

Deputy Director of Mobility for the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region «Digitizing school mobility facilitates transport coordination and offers new services to families, such as real-time information and the ability to reorganize their journey at any time. This technology makes it possible to understand people's uses and needs and adapt transport, improving safety and modernizing school transport.»



Deployment of a connected ticketing system



Enhanced transport safety



High-performance usage data analysis



Setting up dynamic communications







savings in the school transport budget



- Thanks to the implementation of WanFare, the Nouvelle Aquitaine region has observed a route completion rate of over 85%, enabling better knowledge of its network and more constructive discussions with its partners.
- Although savings on a regional scale have yet to be quantified, the Department 86 (Vienne) experiment over two years has shown promising results, with a 10% saving on the school transport budget, or 1.5 million euros. In addition, service quality has improved thanks to better identification of pupils and dynamic communication with families, ensuring a safer and more efficient school transport experience.



Thanks to its commitment to innovation, the Nouvelle Aquitaine region has succeeded in radically transforming its school transport network, ensuring an enhanced mobility experience for students and their families. This success was recognized internationally when the region won the 1st International Mobility Award (EMS) in Madrid on May 8, 2024, underlining its leadership in the digitization of school transport.

